

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended, is respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 5, 10, 13, 14, 17-19, 21, 26, 28, 39, 48-51, 52-55 and 57-59 have been amended. These amendments do not add new matter.

Claim 60 has been added and combines the limitations of claims 1 and 10.

Claim 61 has been added to resolve the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

II. Acknowledgement of Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claim 10 contains allowable subject matter. Applicants have added new claim 60 which encompasses the limitations expressed in dependent claim 10. Applicants submit that claim 60 is in condition for allowance.

III. Claim Rejections under U.S.C. § 112

Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claim 28 rendering this rejection moot and respectfully request withdrawal of the above rejection.

IV. Claim Rejections under U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-25 and 39-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for not being limited to a tangible, material embodiment. Applicants have amended these claims such that they are limited to a tangible embodiment and respectfully request withdrawal of the above rejection.

V. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-6, 12, 23-28, 32-34, 39-41, 45, 52-53, and 56-57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chan (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0059966). Claims 7-9, 29-31, 42-44 and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Jantz (U.S. Patent 6,487,677). Claims 11, 22, 37 and 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Gibson (U.S. Patent 6,343,236). Claims 13-14 and 35-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Gibson, and in further in view of Wikipedia's Cache Article. Claims 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Gibson and Wikipedia's Cache Article, and further in view of Koseki (U.S. Patent 6,732,124). Claims 17-18, 21, 55 and 59 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Coale (U.S. Patent 4,922,491). Claims 19-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Coale (U.S. Patent 4,922,491), and in further view of Jantz. Claims 38 and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Gibson, and further in view of Koseki. Claims 49-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Jantz, and further in view of Gibson. Claim 51 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Jantz, and further in view of Gibson and Koseki. Claims 54 and 58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan.

In response to the above rejections Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 26, 39, 48 and 52. Claim 1, as amended, recites that the "fault manager being suitable for receiving error information and passing this information only to the diagnostic engines that have subscribed to receive the error information." Claims 26 and 39, as amended, recite the steps of "publishing error reports which are only receivable by diagnostic engines that have subscribed to receive the error information." Claim 48, as amended, includes "computer readable instructions enabling the computer to pass the error reports only to diagnostic engines that have subscribed to receive the error reports." Claim 52, as amended, recites that the "the fault manager being suitable for

Chan discloses a logging logic module 721 and a measurement module 718 which stores information about past actions suggested by the error recovery logic module and the subsequent behavior of the autonomic elements. Jantz discloses element 230 operable to update a log (database) of historical information following performance of the selected recovery procedure. The log database includes information regarding success or failure of the selected recovery procedure as applied to the presently identified error condition. Gibson discloses a processor for receiving new fault log data from a malfunctioning machine and selecting a plurality of distinct faults from the fault log data for which the processor predicts at least one repair using a plurality of predetermined weighted repair and distinct fault cluster combinations. Koseki discloses a logging mechanism which stores log records for repairing a file system when its consistency is lost.

In accordance with the present invention, interested diagnostic engines 102 receive error reports 111 for error report types that they have subscribed to. The diagnostic engines 102 then assess and analyze the error reports 111 to generate a list of suspects 104 that includes a set of fault possibilities. The fault possibilities are potential causes of the error reports 111. The list of suspects 104 (as well as any certainty information contained therein) is published in the fault manager 101. Interested fault correction agents 103, receive the list of suspects 104. Generally, interested fault correction agents 103 are those having fault correction algorithms and processes capable of analyzing and correcting certain types of faults. Again, each fault correction agents 103 has a particular "expertise" and is thus a preferred tool for acting upon certain types of faults. Thus, when a list of suspects 104 is published, subscribing fault correction agents 103 receive the list 104.

Applicants submit that Chan, Jantz, Gibson, Koseki and Coale do not teach or suggest passing error information only to diagnostic engines that have subscribed to receive the error information as claimed nor would such a modification be obvious in view of the prior art. Thus, for at least this reason, the rejection of claims 1, 26, 39, 48 and 52 should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all rejections to the independent claims have been overcome thereby placing all independent and dependent claims now pending in this application in condition for allowance. Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' representative

at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that the prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby. Although only certain arguments regarding patentability are set forth herein, there may be other arguments and reasons why the claimed invention is patentable. Applicant reserves the right to raise these arguments in the future.

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Respectfully submitted,

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